Alberta

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Quarterly Population Report

June 22, 2011 | First Quarter 2011

Population Estimates

Alberta's total population growth continued to improve in the first quarter of 2011, largely due to the increase in net interprovincial migration and the significant moderation in net outflow of non-permanent residents (NPR). As of April 11, 2011, the province's total population increased by more than 55,800 persons, or 1.51%, to 3,758,234 from the same period last year (**Table 1**). This was higher than the 1.38% and 1.42% annual growth rates recorded in the first and fourth quarter of 2010, respectively. On a quarterly basis, Alberta's total population grew by 0.41%, or almost 15,500 persons, from the fourth quarter of 2010. This was the highest quarterly population growth rate among provinces.

TABLE 1: POPULATION & GROWTH RATES CANADA & ALBERTA

	Population			Annual Growth Rate	
Apr 1	Canada	Alberta	Apr 1	Canada	Alberta
2006	32,470,572	3,396,821	2006	1.02%	3.03%
2007	32,818,045	3,489,842	2007	1.07%	2.74%
2008	33,187,481	3,563,246	2008	1.13%	2.10%
2009	33,598,878	3,652,096	2009	1.24%	2.49%
2010	33,987,938	3,702,408	2010	1.16%	1.38%
2011	34,349,236	3,758,234	2011	1.06%	1.51%

Source: Statistics Canada

For Canada as a whole, total population increased by 1.06% to 34,349,236 from a year ago (**Table 1**). Among provinces, Alberta had the second highest year-over-year population growth (1.508%) in the first quarter of 2011(**Table 2**), an improvement from the third place reported in the past four quarters, and only marginally behind the leader of Prince Edward Island (1.512%). Newfoundland and Labrador was the only province in the country that has experienced a shrinking population (-0.33%) over the same period.

Migration

As Alberta's economic and labour market conditions continue to improve, positive news continues to emerge from interprovincial migration. In the first three months of 2011, Alberta attracted 5,275 net interprovincial migrants (**Table 3**), the highest quarterly gains since the second quarter of 2008 and almost 17 times higher than the level (312) recorded during the same period last year (**Table 4**). Nationwide, Alberta was the only province that has experienced a net inflow of interprovincial migration in the first quarter. Nova Scotia saw the largest net outflow of 1,034, followed by Manitoba (-1,026) and Quebec (-894).

Among the provinces and territories, Ontario contributed the most (991) to Alberta's net interprovincial migration gains (**Table 3**), followed by Newfoundland and Labrador (901) and British Columbia (893). Quebec (-48) and Yukon (-13) were the only two regions that gained net interprovincial migrants from Alberta.

International migration to Alberta picked up as well. In the first quarter of 2011, 5,741 permanent residents settled in Alberta, a 15.1% drop from a year ago (**Table 4**). However, this was still the third highest level recorded for the same quarter over the past four decades. Meanwhile, after experiencing the largest quarterly net loss ever (-6,725) in the fourth quarter of 2010, the net outflow of NPRs moderated significantly in the first quarter of this year to 504. As a result, a total of 3,645 international migrants, including NPRs, moved to Alberta during the first three months of 2011. This was a noticeable increase compared to the net loss of almost 2,100 reported in the previous quarter.

TABLE 2: POPULATION OF PROVINCES/TERRITORIES AS OF APRIL 1, 2011 & GROWTH RATES SINCE APRIL 1, 2010

	NL.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	QUE.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.	Y.T.	N.W.T.	NVT.
Population	508,410	143,836	942,334	753,025	7,957,591	13,310,859	1,246,396	1,053,960	3,758,234	4,563,296	34,377	43,505	33,413
Growth Rate	0.3%	1.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.9%	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%	1.5%	1.1%	0.5%	-0.5%	1.6%

Source: Statistics Canada

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Natural Increase

Between January 1 and March 31 of 2011, Alberta experienced a natural population growth (births minus deaths) of 6,561 persons. Particularly, the province recorded 12,736 births and 6,175 deaths.

Therefore, natural increase has accounted for 42% of the province's total population growth during the period, the second highest proportion among provinces in the country and only behind Saskatchewan (51%).

TABLE 3: ORIGIN & DESTINATION OF INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRANTS
JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2011

Origin \ *Destination*	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QB	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NT	NU
NL	0	40	326	145	48	709	40	44	1,426	133	0	70	8
PEI	46	0	94	85	12	183	24	61	160	126	0	0	0
NS	308	149	0	721	139	1,155	138	117	1,428	398	0	7	30
NB	114	167	609	0	474	755	39	89	726	155	0	6	0
QB	40	8	123	413	0	3,910	91	152	744	557	31	15	0
ON	1,099	185	1,110	850	2,909	0	1,216	979	4,633	3,157	104	106	122
MB	132	17	93	26	107	1,212	0	728	1,322	1,068	0	40	36
SK	36	11	39	73	110	712	720	0	2,849	986	18	0	0
AB	525	89	775	426	792	3,642	809	2,115	0	5,811	91	192	14
BC	120	86	310	168	547	3,239	626	614	6,704	0	150	117	15
YT	0	0	8	0	12	62	9	30	78	124	0	53	10
NT	55	0	45	20	24	50	35	32	417	83	35	0	76
NU	33	0	24	0	16	151	8	0	69	0	0	60	0

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QB	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NT	NU
In Migration	2,508	752	3,556	2,927	5,190	15,780	3,755	4,961	20,556	12,598	429	666	311
Out Migration	2,989	791	4,590	3,134	6,084	16,470	4,781	5,554	15,281	12,696	386	872	361
Net Migration	-481	-39	-1,034	-207	-894	-690	-1,026	-593	5,275	-98	43	-206	-50

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QB	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NT	NU
Outflow to AB	1,426	160	1,428	726	744	4,633	1,322	2,849	n/a	6,704	78	417	69
Inflow from AB	525	89	775	426	792	3,642	809	2,115	n/a	5,811	91	192	14
Net flow to AB	901	71	653	300	-48	991	513	734	n/a	893	-13	225	55

Source: Statistics Canada

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TABLE 4: ALBERTA MIGRATION BY QUARTER

	Interprovincial Migration			International Migration					Total	NPR*	Total+NPR
Quarter	In	Out	Net Interprovincial	Immigrants	Emigrants	Net Temporary Emigrants	Returning Emigrants	Net International Migration	Total Net Migration	Net Non-Permanent Residents	Net Migration including Net NPR
2007											
Jan-Mar	18,625	13,900	**4,725**	4,015	1,237	500	645	**2,923**	**7,648**	4,227	**11,875**
Apr-Jun	21,947	17,270	**4,677**	5,595	1,637	568	1137	**4,527**	**9,204**	5,840	**15,044**
Jul-Sep	26,228	24,023	**2,205**	6,171	3,362	734	1,079	**3,154**	**5,359**	4,672	**10,031**
Oct-Dec	15,614	13,579	**2,035**	5,085	1,913	542	452	**3,082**	**5,117**	2,568	**7,685**
Total	*82,414*	*68,772*	***13,642***	*20,866*	*8,149*	*2,344*	*3,313*	***13,686***	***27,328***	***17,307***	***44,635***
2008											
Jan-Mar	18,572	14,710	**3,862**	5,352	1,553	494	487	**3,792**	**7,654**	4,037	**11,691**
Apr-Jun	24,023	16,808	**7,215**	7,196	1,867	536	820	**5,613**	**12,828**	7,334	**20,162**
Jul-Sep	22,732	20,075	**2,657**	6,455	3,375	729	1,079	**3,430**	**6,087**	7,605	**13,692**
Oct-Dec	15,137	11,026	**4,111**	5,201	1,959	544	452	**3,150**	**7,261**	4,532	**11,793**
Total	*80,464*	*62,619*	***17,845***	*24,204*	*8,754*	*2,303*	*2,838*	***15,985***	***33,830***	***23,508***	***57,338***
2009											
Jan-Mar	18,711	14,026	**4,685**	5,764	1,598	497	487	**4,156**	**8,841**	4,544	**13,385**
Apr-Jun	18,658	16,927	**1,731**	7,739	1,921	539	820	**6,099**	**7,830**	2,481	**10,311**
Jul-Sep	20,790	23,325	**-2,535**	7,585	3,447	732	1,079	**4,485**	**1,950**	2,386	**4,336**
Oct-Dec	12,124	14,904	**-2,780**	5,929	1,973	543	452	**3,865**	**1,085**	-1,663	**-578**
Total	*70,283*	*69,182*	***1,101***	*27,017*	*8,939*	*2,311*	*2,838*	***18,605***	***19,706***	***7,748***	***27,454***
2010											
Jan-Mar	19,340	19,028	**312**	6,761	1,605	495	487	**5,148**	**5,460**	-47	**5,413**
Apr-Jun	23,083	20,263	**2,820**	9,686	1,934	537	820	**8,035**	**10,855**	-753	**10,102**
Jul-Sep	21,702	20,547	**1,155**	9,492	3,478	732	1,079	**6,361**	**7,516**	-1,643	**5,873**
Oct-Dec	16,072	13,562	**2,510**	6,708	1,984	543	452	**4,633**	**7,143**	-6,725	**418**
Total	*80,197*	*73,400*	***6,797***	*32,647*	*9,001*	*2,307*	*2,838*	***24,177***	***30,974***	***-9,168***	***21,806***
2011											
Jan-Mar	20,556	15,281	**5,275**	5,741	1,584	495	487	**4,149**	**9,424**	-504	**8,920**
Apr-Jun	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Jul-Sep	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oct-Dec	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	*20,556*	*15,281*	***5,275***	*5,741*	*1,584*	*495*	*487*	***4,149***	***9,424***	***-504***	***8,920***

* Estimates of non-permanent residents (NPRs) represent the number of non-permanent residents living in Canada. The five following groups are referred to as NPRs: (1) persons residing in Canada claiming refugee status; (2) persons residing in Canada who hold a study permit; (3) persons residing in Canada who hold a work permit; (4) persons residing in Canada who hold a Minister's permit; (5) all non-Canadian born dependants of persons claiming refugee status, or of persons holding study permits, work permits or Minister's permits and living in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada

Prepared By: Alberta Finance and Enterprise, Economics, Demography and Public Finance, June 22, 2011